

# MONTGOMERY MT Breeze

PUBLISHED BY THE MOUNTAIN BREEZE STAFF

Montgomery

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Welcome to Montgomery, Massachusetts

We are a rural, residential town situated in the Berkshire foothills. Montgomery's land area is about 15 square miles.

First settled in 1767, and incorporated in 1780, Montgomery was until fairly recently a farming community.

## Check it out!

View the current and back issues of the Montgomery MT Breeze at the Town of Montgomery website:  
**montgomeryma.gov**

## School Committee member needed

Montgomery is currently represented by only one school committee member, and a second person is needed to complete a term that is set to expire in 2019. This is an ideal time to become involved in the process, as the six District towns are engaged in facilitated discussions with the school administration and committee to develop long term strategies for the District's future.

The School Committee is the equivalent of a board of directors of a corporation, which in this case is a school system. The school committee has oversight of and responsibility for the school system, sets the direction in which the system must go, and establishes criteria to determine if its goals and policies are being met. Please contact Jane Thielen or Dan Jacques for further information.

“While I relish our warm months, winter forms our character and brings out our best.”

Tom Allen

➔ Please check page 2 for updates to your Important numbers list.

## NOTICE!

Selectboard meetings have moved from Fridays to Thursdays. Effective November 30th, Selectboard meetings will be held every other Thursday at the Town Hall. All meeting dates are posted in the Upcoming Events calendar at [montgomeryma.gov](http://montgomeryma.gov).

Meetings are open to the public and all are invited to attend. If you have business before the Board, however, you must notify the Administrative Secretary (Jane Thielen) or Selectboard Chair (Dan Jacques) no later than the Tuesday prior to the meeting date in order to be placed on the agenda. This is a requirement of the Commonwealth's Open Meeting Law, which requires that agenda be posted no later than 48 hours prior to a scheduled meeting.

*Santa visits  
Montgomery, see  
schedule inside.*



## Important numbers

FIRE EMERGENCY 911  
 AMBULANCE 911  
 STATE POLICE 911  
 HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT 862-4037  
 GATEWAY HIGH SCHOOL 685-1102  
 GATEWAY MIDDLE SCHOOL 685-1202  
 GMS ATTENDANCE 685-1201  
 LITTLEVILLE ELEMENTARY 685-1301  
 TOWN HALL OFFICE 862-3386

townhall@montgomeryma.gov

Administrative Secretary Hours, Tuesdays  
 & Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

FIRE DEPT 862-4505  
 FIRE CHIEF - STEVE FRYE 862-3670  
 TOWN CLERK - JUDY MURPHY 862-4478  
 POLICE DEPT  
 ADMINISTRATIVE POLICE CHIEF -  
 PAULA CHAPMAN 862-4949  
 TAX COLLECTOR - JANE THIELEN 862-3386  
 ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER -  
 PHIL CAMP 862-4976

SELECT BOARD:  
 DAN JACQUES 862-9001  
 WAYNE MORSE 862-4023  
 JACOB CHAPMAN 862-4949

Meetings for the Select Board are held at  
 7:00 p.m. every other Thursday.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE:  
 MADELYN AUSTIN 862-4004  
 mrrrrr@verizon.net

LIBRARY:  
 LIBRARIAN - PAULA LONG 862-3894  
 montgomerylibrary@yahoo.com  
 HOURS: Tuesday 10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.  
 Thursday 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.  
 Saturday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS:  
 Meetings of the Board of Assessors are held  
 on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month  
 from 8:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Please call 862-3386  
 for an appointment. Assessors' Clerk  
 hours 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month  
 from Noon - 4 p.m.

State Senator Don Humason:  
 64 Noble St., Westfield, MA 01085  
 (413) 568-1366  
 Donald.Humason@masenate.gov

State Representative Peter V. Kocot:  
 Rep.PeterKocot@hou.state.ma.us  
 (413) 582-6111

### MOUNTAIN BREEZE STAFF

Editor: T.Lak 413-237-2818

Helen Allyn \* Chris Brown \* Laurie Flechsig \* Beulah  
 Kidrick \* Paula Long \* Julie Pike \* Jane Thielen \*  
 montgomerymtbreeze@gmail.com

## December Calendar

Dec. 1 9:30 –11:00 am – Osteoporosis Exercise – Town Hall  
 Dec. 6 6:30 pm – Yoga – Town Hall  
 Dec. 6 9:30 am – Gateway Brunch & Concert – Gateway  
 Regional  
 Dec. 7 6:30 PM – GRSD Planning Committee (GRSD – Middle  
 School, Rm 112/114  
 Dec. 8 9:30 –11:00 am – Osteoporosis Exercise – Town Hall  
 Dec. 12 Recycling day  
 Dec. 12 10:00 am – COA Coffee Hour – Town Hall  
 Dec. 13 6:30 pm – Yoga – Town Hall  
 Dec. 13 7:00 PM – GRSD School Committee (GRSD – Middle  
 School, Rm 112/114  
 Dec. 14 7:00 PM – Selectboard Meeting – Town Hall  
 Dec. 15 9:30 –11:00 am – Osteoporosis Exercise – Town Hall  
 Dec. 20 6:30 pm – Yoga – Town Hall  
 Dec. 22 9:30 –11:00 am – Osteoporosis Exercise – Town Hall  
 Dec. 22 Noon – Christmas Brunch – Town Hall  
 Dec. 27 Recycling day  
 Dec. 27 6:30 pm – Yoga – Town Hall  
 Dec. 28 7:00 PM – Selectboard Meeting – Town Hall  
 Dec. 29 9:30 –11:00 am – Osteoporosis Exercise – Town Hall

### Paula L. Chapman

Administrative Chief of Police for the Town of Montgomery  
**OFFICE HOURS 6:30 PM TO 7:45 PM**

DECEMBER 14TH

DECEMBER 28TH

### State Representative Peter V. Kocot

will hold office hours at the Montgomery Town Hall from  
 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on the following dates:

Tuesday, December 12th

### MOUNTAIN BREEZE AD POLICY

Montgomery resident ads: \$3.50 for ¼ page, \$7.00 for ½ page, \$10.50 for ¾  
 page and \$14.00 for a full page.

Non-resident ads: \$5.00 for ¼ page, \$10.00 for ½ page, \$15.00 for ¾ page  
 and \$20.00 for a full page.

Political ads: \$15.00 for ½ page and \$30.00 for a full page. (Political ads  
 must include the name of the payer.)

Ads: email (preferably pdf file) to montgomerymtbreeze@gmail.com, put  
 in the MB box at the Library, or mail to: **Montgomery Mountain Breeze,**  
**c/o Grace Hall Memorial Library, 161 Main Road, Montgomery, MA**  
**01085-9525.** Include your name and phone number. Payment must be re-  
 ceived by deadline date (usually on the 16th of the month) or ad will not  
 be run. No cash, please; make check payable to Montgomery Mountain  
 Breeze and put in the MB box at the Library, or mail to above address.

# ...and To All a Good Breakfast!



## **In the grand tradition of giving... the Grille is hosting a FREE hilltown Christmas Charity Breakfast from 7:00 am to 10:00 am on Christmas morning!**

The ALL YOU CAN EAT! limited menu includes scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, pancakes, coffee and o.j.

While breakfast is free, we will be taking donations for local food pantries and supplies for Amy's January trip to Nicaragua to help build a new kindergarten class room and teach English.

**ALSO:** We will be collecting food for the Food Pantry and clothes for the "Dress for Success" program.

**We look forward to having Christmas Breakfast  
with our good neighbors!**

**Montgomery  
Grille**

AT THE MONTGOMERY MARKETPLACE

*46 Main Rd, Montgomery, MA  
862- (FOOD) 3663*

**HOURS:** Wednesday, Thursday, Friday:  
5:30 am to 2:30 pm

**Saturday and Sunday: 6:00 am to 2:30 pm  
Lunch starts 11:00 am**

*Closed Mondays & Tuesdays*



# Winter treatment for poinsettias and cyclamens

The garden has been "put to bed." So now is the time to enjoy our inside plants. If you purchase a poinsettia or a cyclamen or better yet, receive a plant as a gift, the rule of thumb is to keep the plant cool and evenly watered. Over watering kills more plants than under watering. The blooms will last into late winter or even longer with the proper care.

Poinsettias require at least 6 hours of indirect sunlight per day. They prefer daytime temperatures between 65 – 70 degrees. Poinsettia are sensitive to cold, so do not expose plants to temperatures below 50 degrees. Do not place the

## GardenNews

by Chris Brown



plants near cold drafts or excessive heat, which may cause the plant to drop leaves. In the summer, you can plant your poinsettia into the garden to further extend its life and hopefully have it bloom again

next year.

Cyclamen prefer bright indirect light like from an east window. Cyclamen need cool temperatures to remain in bloom as long as possible. Ideal daytime temperatures are 60 to 65 degrees with night temperatures around 50 degrees.

Happy Holidays to all the gardeners...it is a beautiful time of the year

## PUMPKIN, CARMEL & PECAN CHEESECAKE

½ cup chopped pecans, divided  
¼ cup butter/margarine, melted  
1 cup sugar  
1 Tbsp. pumpkin pie spice

1 ½ cups ginger snaps, finely crushed (about 40)  
4 pkgs. (8 oz. ea.) cream cheese, softened  
1 can pumpkin  
1 tsp. vanilla

4 eggs  
25 Kraft Carmels  
¼ cup milk  
whipped cream

Heat oven to 325 degrees. Finely chop ¼ cup pecans. Place in med. bowl. Add crushed ginger snaps crumbs and butter. Mix well. Press onto bottom of 13" by 9" pan.

Beat cream cheese & sugar in a large bowl until blended. Add pumpkin, spices and vanilla. Mix well. Add eggs, one at a time, mixing on low speed after each, just until blended. Pour over crust. Bake 45 minutes or until center is almost set. Cool completely. Refrigerate 4 hours.

Microwave Carmels with milk, until candies are melted, stirring every 30 seconds. Spoon over servings of cheesecake. Sprinkle with remaining nuts. Serve with whipped cream.

DECEMBER RECIPE

## The Wyben Christmas Craft Fair

**Saturday, December 2, 2017**  
**9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

**Wyben Union Church**  
**678 Montgomery Road • Westfield, MA**

Corn Chowder  
Luncheon

Baked  
Goods

Shopping for a unique gift is fun and easy with a wide array of artisan crafts that include jewelry, woodcrafts, tinware, pocketbooks, quilts, cutting boards, and more.

And you won't go away hungry when you visit our baked goods table and the ever-popular corn chowder luncheon. Church Proceeds to Benefit the Salvation Army - Westfield Chapter.

Join us in supporting a worthy cause. Thank you!!

Artisan  
Crafts

*Irene, formerly of (HAIR Ltd) welcomes everyone to visit her at*

# ROYAL NAILS & SPA

617 E Main St., Westfield, MA • 413-478-6253 • 415-642-8002

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

To all my loyal Friends, you have traveled so much for me. You have all made my move so Happy. I wish all of you the very best for the New Year. Looking forward to having another fun year with all of you.

*Many Thanks & God Bless  
Irene*

Holiday Blessings to my co-workers at the Grille!

**For more information call:  
413-642-8002  
413-478-6253**



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*Happy Hanukkah! Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!*  
from your Montgomery Historical Society

## Post holiday night out to celebrate the turning of the year

As the old year wanes and our activities near their cold-weather hiatus, we wish to say THANK YOU, Neighbors and Friends from Montgomery, the Hilltowns, Westfield and beyond, for all the support you have provided for the Historical Society's fund-raising efforts throughout the year and for the many times you've participated in our "field trips" and other events. Your presence is always welcome and appreciated!

Before hunkering down for the winter, we're planning to celebrate the New Year with a post-holiday night out – on Wednesday, January 3 at 6:30 p.m. We'll be dining at Paisano's Restaurant & Pizzeria at 136 College Highway, Southampton, ordering from the menu. All are invited to join us for this evening of fun, food, and fellowship as we celebrate the "turning of the year"! Call Laurie at 862-8095 by Saturday, December 30, please, to indicate your plans as we must provide a head count to the restaurant at that time.

### Historical Happenings



For any who would like to carpool from Montgomery, please also call Laurie so we can accommodate your request(s). Also, should we happen to have snow or ice that evening, we will postpone this outing to Thursday,

January 4 (same time, same place).

As always, events and activities are organized by your Historical Society to provide our neighbors and friends with an opportunity to gather for a night (or day) of entertainment typically with some historical connection.

The camaraderie is important, as well. Hope you will join us for this celebration of the old year and the new! The Steering Committee for the Historical Society will be meeting in mid-January to plan events and activities for the coming year. If you have any suggestions for our programming, please call Laurie at the number at left and share your ideas!

*The Montgomery Historical Society's display case located at the Grace Hall Memorial Library at the town center has recently featured a collection of copper items for the fall season, and as of December 1, will be exhibiting a portion of the "snow village" of one of our Historical Society members. Items were collected over a number of years and represent some of the "favorites" of this person's collection. We hope you'll visit the library during the colder months to stock up on reading material and other media, and while there, check out the display case and its contents. We have another exhibit planned for mid-January, but after that, we have openings for other persons' collections. If you have (or someone you know has) a collection or conglomeration of items you'd like your fellow townspeople and others to see, please call Laurie (862-8095) to talk about when we can include your items in our display case. Your participation will ensure the displays remain fresh and interesting! Thanks!*



## Outside the bird feeder with Lori Conley

### HOW TO MAKE BIRD SEED ORNAMENTS

Birdseed ornaments are a fun, easy project and make great decorations, perfect for an outside holiday tree or just hanging in any season. Birds will happily munch on the ornaments, and they make great gifts for teachers, neighbors or co-workers.

The trick with these is using unflavored gelatin to hold everything together.

Ingredients:

- 2 1/2 cups birdseed
- 2 pkgs unflavored gelatin
- 2 tablespoons corn syrup
- 1 cup water
- Cookie cutters (ideally they should be about an inch thick)

Add 1/2 cup water to a large bowl. Pour 2 pkgs unflavored gelatin on top of the water. Add 1/2 cup boiling

water to the gelatin mixture and stir until the gelatin is completely dissolved. Add the corn syrup and stir until completely combined. Add the birdseed and mix well.

Place the bowl in the fridge for about 10 minutes until the liquid firms up enough that it won't leak out from under the cookie cutters. Set your cookie cutters onto a parchment paper lined baking sheet and fill them with spoonfuls of the bird seed mixture. Fill the cookie cutters to the top and press down firmly to fill in all the gaps. Press a straw into the shapes at the top to make a hole for hanging.

Hang them in a way that they are close to other branches so that the birds have somewhere to perch while they are eating.

Happy Holidays to everyone!





# SANTA CLAUS

IS COMING TO TOWN!!!!



**SATURDAY - DECEMBER 16, 2017**  
(TIME SCHEDULE - TIMES ARE APPROX.)

**SNOW DATE FOR SANTA RUN: SUNDAY DECEMBER 17, 2017**

THE MONTGOMERY FIRE DEPARTMENT ASSOCIATION WILL ONCE AGAIN BRING SANTA TO THESE LOCATIONS AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES:

11:00 a.m. Main Rd. at Fuller Rd.  
11:05 a.m. Main Rd. at Old Main Rd.  
11:10 a.m. Professional Center - 46 Main Road  
11:25 a.m. Main Rd. at North Rd.  
11:35 a.m. Pitcher St. at Pitcher St. Cemetery  
11:40 a.m. Pitcher St. at Mountain House Rd.  
11:45 a.m. Pitcher St. at the end  
12:00 p.m. Pine Ridge Rd. at Birch Bluff Rd.  
12:15 p.m. Russell Rd. at Old House Rd.  
12:35 p.m. Russell Rd. at Tekoa Rd.  
12:40 p.m. Russell Rd. at Pomeroy Rd.  
12:45 p.m. At the FIRE STATION  
1:00 p.m. Main Rd. at New State Rd.  
1:10 p.m. Avery Rd. at Sunset Rd.  
1:25 p.m. New State Rd. at Jourdan Rd.  
1:40 p.m. Carrington Rd. at Main Rd.  
2:00 p.m. Carrington Rd. at Thomas Rd.  
2:30 p.m. Carrington Rd. at Russell Rd.  
2:40 p.m. Back at the FIRE STATION



**SANTA WILL ARRIVE IN MONTGOMERY'S RESCUE TRUCK  
AND HAND OUT TREATS TO THE KIDS!!!!**

# Pike's Peak Christmas Tree Farm

**1689 Russell Road, Montgomery** is officially open for the season as of **Saturday, December 2**, continuing every weekend through **Sunday, December 17**. (Please call if you need a special time.) Hours are **9:00 a.m. through dusk** – remember, there are no lights out in the fields!



**Many sizes available** – small through tall, primarily Fraser Fir and Colorado blue spruce, and the cost is the same for any tree – **\$30.00 for any size** – choose and **cut your own**. We also have fresh, **hand-made evergreen wreaths** on a grapevine base, plus **door swags and kissing balls!**

Be sure to stop in the cabin to warm up with free hot cider or hot chocolate.

**Please call us with any questions. 862-4539 or 862-8095.**

***Santa Claus will pay his annual visit to the Christmas Tree Farm on Sunday, December 10 (from 9 a.m. until dusk) for all the children to see and share their Christmas wishes. Come chat with him if you are able! Also, on Saturday, December 16th, Santa will be visiting all the children around town on the fire rescue truck. His schedule can be found elsewhere in the Mountain Breeze – he'll be happy to see you near your home!***

*\*The very best of Christmas wishes from all of us at Pike's Peak Christmas Tree Farm!\**

## Looking for Christmas Gifts?

**The 2018 Taste Coupon Book – \$25.00 ea**

AMVETS Post 96, Russell, MA

*Proceeds will be used to make a donation to the Holyoke Soldiers Home Recreation Fund*

*Included inside are coupons for local & "chain" restaurants in: Agawam, Chicopee, Easthampton, Hadley, Holyoke, Ludlow, Northampton, Southampton, Southwick, Springfield, West Springfield, Westfield & many other towns in Western Mass – including our "own" Montgomery Grill. Also some places in Enfield and Suffield, CT.*

**Restaurants Include:** Burger King, McDonalds, Dunkin Donuts, TGI Fridays, Sonic, Opa-Opa, Hu Ke Lau, Munich House, Glendale Grill, Red Robin, Arby's, Dominio's Pizza, Uno Chicago Grill, and MANY more.

**Also included are coupons for:** Amelia Park, Old Sturbridge Village, Springfield Symphony, Eric Carle Museum, Fenway Golf, Volleyball Hall of Fame, Taylor Rental, Berkshire East, & many others

**If interested, call Dan Flechsig  
862-8095**

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Maggie Bean-Ducharme  
Curtis Bush, Jr.  
Jean Bush  
Philip Camp  
Cade Fuller  
Terry Hall  
Janice Houston  
Hannah Long

Jessica Mason  
Barrent Pease  
Mary Senatore  
Marianne Swiatek

### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Kathy and Rich Couture  
Sandie and Chris Mann

Happy Holidays  
to All!

from the  
MT Breeze staff.



"Why pay more for less,  
our customers deserve  
the very best"



"Hello, I'm Doug Menard a long time Montgomery resident and owner, operator of Menard Garage Doors. I am reaching out to my neighbors and surrounding towns to offer my services of garage door sales, installation and repairs."

"Our goal is to exceed our customers expectations of quality, products and service. We believe that you would want to be treated the way we would want to be treated with fairness, honesty and respect. Why pay more for less, our customers deserve the very best value..."

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Selection."

## BEFORE AND AFTER



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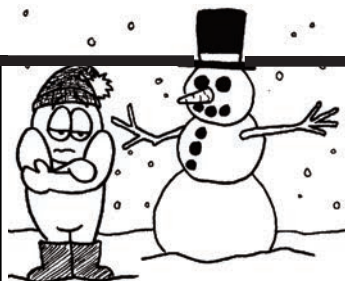
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# Library News

facebook.com/  
gracehallmemorial

**December  
2017**

Chill December brings the sleet, Blazing fire, and Christmas treat. ~Sara Coleridge (1802–1852), "The Garden Year"

## New Items in the Library

Story of Arthur Truluv by E. Berg

Artemis by A. Weir

DVD Cars 3

DVD Atomic Blonde

Library at the End of the world by F. Hayes  
-McCoy

I know a secret by T. Gerritsen

Nat.Geo. Kids Books,

Typhoon Fury by C. Cussler

The Driver by H. Hanson

Big needle knitting

Big Book of Knitting

Plus many new Kid's titles, young adult  
series and DVD's!

**Trustees Meeting Dec.  
7 at 6:30 PM**

## Museum Passes

**\*Old Sturbridge Village\*  
Springfield Quad**

**Norman Rockwell**

**Mystic Aquarium**

**Deerfield Historical Mu-**

**USS Constitution**

**DCR State Park Pass**

**MassMoCa**

### Hours

Tues: 10– 5:30

Thurs: 4-8

Sat: 9:30-12:30

### Contact

#### Mail

161 Main Road, Montgomery, MA  
01085

#### Phone

413-862-3894

#### email

MontgomeryLibrary  
@yahoo.com

#### Website

montgomeryma.gov

wghl.masscat.org

facebook.com/gracehallmemorial

commonwealthcatalog.org

Volunteers Needed for Holiday party. Interest in having fun and bringing good cheer? Let us know at the library.

Library Cookie Exchange Dec. 14 at 7 pm. Bring 4 doz. Of your favorite cookies and an empty container to fill. Everyone welcome!

## Winter Events at the Library

December 9 Holiday party 3-5

January 6 Greg Maichack Pastel workshop

February Vacation Week with Ed the Wizard and Jay Makita

March 29 Birds of New England Swamp , Photographer Peter Christopher

May 12 "1908 tea Party" with Rita

# COUNCIL ON AGING

Serving the Citizens of Montgomery  
December 2017

## Calendar

**Tue – Dec 12 Coffee Hour – 10 am**

**Fri – Dec 22 Christmas Brunch – noon**

### **Osteoporosis Exercise Class**

Town Hall – Friday – 9:30 – 11am

## December Birthdays

Jean Bush

Lorna Washburn

Irene Barron



**Join us on Friday, December 22nd for our annual Christmas Brunch at the Town Hall.**

**Call 862-3257 by Monday, December 18th if you can attend.**

**The Medicare open enrollment period will close on December 7<sup>th</sup>.**

If you have questions on your plan now is the time to act.

John Bergeron, SHINE representative, can be reached at 667-2203 if you would like to make an appointment. He is extremely busy but always manages to find time to help our seniors.

## The Annual Senior Citizen Gateway Regional School District Brunch and Concert

The annual Holiday Brunch and Concert will take place at Gateway Regional on **Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. Snow Date is December 7<sup>th</sup>.** Please join us for a special holiday celebration with Gateway student musicians.

**Doors open at 9:15 a.m.  
Brunch is from 9:30-10:30  
Concert is from 10:30-12**

This is free of charge to Gateway Hilltown residents, aged 55 and older. Parking will be available in front of the Middle/High School complex.

Please call 862-3257 as soon as possible if you plan on attending. They would like a count of people by **November 29<sup>th</sup>**, but as always, will accommodate late arrivals.

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### Elder Abuse – (800) 922-2275

(Elder Abuse refers to any knowing, intentional, or negligent act by a caregiver or any other person that causes harm or a serious risk of harm to a vulnerable adult 60 or older)

Meals on Wheels – Highland Valley Elder Services – Donation requested (800) 322-0551 or (413) 586-2000

Hilltown Social Services – 667-2203

Shine Counselor – John Bergeron - 667-2203

Veteran's Agent – Daniel Flechsig – 862-8095

Outreach – Ginger Cruickshank – 862-4932



## **PREPARING FOR WINTER WEATHER**

### **MEMA Offers Tips to Help Keep Massachusetts Families Safe**

A winter storm in New England can range from a moderate snowfall over a few hours to a chilling Nor'easter, bringing blizzard conditions with blinding win-driven snow that lasts several days. People can become stranded in their automobiles or trapped at home, without utilities or other services. The aftermath of a winter storm can have an impact on a community or the entire region for days, weeks or even months. Storm effects, in New England include large snow accumulation, "extremely cold temperatures, heavy, wet snow or icing on trees and power lines, roof collapses, coastal flooding and beach erosion.

Winter storms are also deceptive killers because most deaths are indirectly related to the actual storm. The major causes are automobile or other transportation accidents, exhaustion and heart attacks caused by overexertion, "freezing to death" and asphyxiation from improper heating sources. House fires occur more frequently in the winter due to lack of proper safety precautions when using alternate heating sources, like unattended fires and space heaters.

Over the next couple of months we will share important winter safety information. Areas to be covered will include the proper steps to take to prepare your family and home for the winter season, automobile and driving safety, protecting your pets, and responding to power outages.

#### **WINTER EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT**

- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Portable radio or NOAA Weather Radio with extra batteries
- Charged cell phone
- First-aid kit
- Essential prescription medicines
- Non-perishable food
- Manual can opener
- Water (one gallon per person/per day)
- Extra blankets and sleeping bags
- Fire extinguisher

#### **FAMILY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS PLAN**

Develop a "Family Emergency Communication Plan" in case family members are separated from one another during a winter storm and have a plan for getting back together.

- Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the "family contact". After a disaster, it is often easier to call long distance than across town. Also, calling outside the area will probably be easier than calling into a disaster area.
- Make sure everyone knows the name, address and telephone number of the contact person.
- Sometimes an emergency could impact your neighborhood or small section of town. Decide on an alternate meeting area for family members.

This newsletter is partially funded by a grant of the Executive Office of Elder Affairs  
Outreach Worker: Ginger Cruickshank 862-4932  
Board Members: Anne-Marie Buikus 862-3257, Jane Thielen 862-4482, Sandy Haas 862-3829  
Jeanne Aras 862-4497, Jean Bush 862-3645, Geraldine Larrabee 862-3884  
E-mail: COA-Montgomeryma@hotmail.com